



## Retired Senior Volunteer Program Advisory Council Meeting



Minutes of June 14, 2011

### Members Present

Everett Barnett  
Cheryl Bowman  
Alicia de Jong Davis  
Anne Langenfeld  
Nati C. Munoz

Shirley Roberts  
Stephen B. Tatem  
William H. Wickline  
Patricia Williams

### Members Absent

Alma R. Bahena

### Staff

Norma Corona  
Henry Drake  
Sandra Serrano

### **Call to Order and Quorum Count**

Meeting called to order @ 10:00 am.

### ***Approval of minutes***

Minutes of prior meeting reviewed and approved.

### **Announcements/comments**

Mrs. Roberts mentioned the article in the El Paso Times that addressed budget cuts for RSVP. Norma pointed out a mistake on the article that stated the RSVP program receives CDBG funds. Norma explained that it's a common mistake since we are housed within Community Development everyone assumes that we receive funds from CDBG but we don't.

Mrs. Cheryl Bowman was sworn in to office.

### **Unfinished business**

Norma announced to council that the RSVP program did suffer a 20.2% cut from the federal budget and due to the cut the program lost one staff person. Lori Rodriguez was let go from the program but was placed with the Engineering Department within the City. Norma foresees continuing the program until March 2012 or till December 2012 if the City budget gets granted, as far as the federal budget that is still unknown. She also explained that the cost for this year's banquet has already been allotted for and reservations will decrease from 875 to 800 to reduce some of the cost, invitations are also being redesigned to lower the cost.

### **New business**

Norma explained the ad contract that was passed out to advisory council and the door prize letter. Henry showed the Banquet booklet to council and suggested if they had a contact for a business that would like to purchase an ad to just hand them the contract and tell them a little bit about the program and if they are interested they will call the office. Henry also clarified that he has already contacted businesses that are already in the booklet from last year and there is no need to contact those specific ones. Norma went on to share with council that we usually have around 40 door prizes that are raffled off at the banquet and if any business requests a tax exempt form for their donation please contact her and she will make sure they receive it.

Mr. Tatem had an idea to somehow print the number of years a specific business had been a sponsor of the banquet with printing somewhere on the ad how many years they have been purchasing an ad. Mrs. Bowman also suggested contacting the UTEP alumni to get an ad from their senior adult program. Norma asked Mrs. Davis if she would do translation at the banquet and she also mentioned attempting to get Sylvester Reyes or Jose Rodriguez as a guest speaker. She explained never really having a guest speaker in the past but now with the budget crisis it would be a good time. Sandra briefly explained the concept of the baskets and items that can be brought in to create a basket.

Norma brought up the idea of a 40<sup>th</sup> year pin to be this year's give away as volunteers and guests enter the hall. She expressed her concern of confusing guests at the banquet with the 40<sup>th</sup> year pin since the Corporation is celebrating their 40<sup>th</sup> year but the El Paso RSVP is celebrating its 37<sup>th</sup> year. Mrs. Roberts felt the give away pin should be eliminated due to budget restrains but Mrs. Munoz felt that the volunteers and guest really enjoy receiving it. Mr. Tatem thought the price at .90 cents a pin was a reasonable amount. Norma asked council if anyone would be interested in contacting either Wal-Mart or Target to donate 900 recyclable grocery bags with the store logo for free publicity and we would go with that as the give away. Council agreed if donation of grocery bags wasn't successful then option two would be the 40<sup>th</sup> star pin at .90 cents a piece.

**Suggestions for the good of the council**

None

**Adjournment**

11:05 am

**Next meeting**

July 12, 2011